

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 058370

62
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 058370

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:EAIR, UK, FR, WB, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BERLIN CHARTERS TO LONDON AND PARIS

REF: A) STATE 41442; B) BONN 3170; C) USBERLIN 371; D)

BONN 20897 (12/31/75)

1. AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF DEMARCHE ON CHARTER ISSUE,
DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE THAT FURTHER
DIPLOMATIC APPROACHES WILL CAUSE BRITISH AND FRENCH TO
CHANGE THEIR POSITION. WHILE UNDERSTANDING CONSIDERATIONS
LAID OUT BY EMBASSY BONN IN REF(D), WE BELIEVE TIME HAS
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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 058370

COME TO CONSIDER MEETING UK AND FRENCH REFUSAL TO APPROVE

PANAM CHARTERS WITH SIMILAR REACTION FROM US SIDE. WE BELIEVE MOST APPROPRIATE NEXT STEP WOULD BE REFUSAL TO APPROVE NEXT SERIES OF DANAIR OR LAKER CHARTERS MENTIONED IN REF(B).

2. PROVIDED EMBASSY BONN AND MISSION BERLIN DO NOT HAVE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ON THIS STEP, WE BELIEVE PANAM GERMANY SHOULD BE CONSULTED BEFORE PROCEEDING TO DENY UK APPLICATIONS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO RUN THE RISK OF POSSIBLE UK COUNTERACTION AGAINST PANAM. ASSUMING WE ARE IN AGREEMENT THAT THIS CONCRETE ACTION IS NECESSARY, EMBASSY SHOULD REFUSE TO GRANT APPROVAL FOR

NEXT UK CHARTER REQUEST TO LONDON PRESENTED TO CAA'S. WHEN TAKING THIS STEP, US CAA SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

US REGRETS THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO TAKE STEP WHICH LIMITS AVAILABILITY OF AIR SERVICE TO BERLIN TRAVELING PUBLIC. AS WE HAVE STATED OFTEN DURING DISCUSSION OF CHARTER QUESTION, ONE OF OUR MAIN CONSIDERATIONS IS ASSURING THAT BERLINERS ARE PROVIDED LARGEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS TO AS MANY DESTINATIONS AS POSSIBLE.

US DOES NOT AGREE WITH UK AND FRENCH ARGUMENTS THAT PANAM CHARTER SERVICES HAVE BEEN DAMAGING SCHEDULED SERVICES TO LONDON AND PARIS. HOWEVER, IF TWO ALLIES ARE OF THE VIEW THAT THESE SCHEDULED SERVICES SHOULD BE PROTECTED AT ALL COSTS, THEN US BELIEVES IT IS ONLY FAIR THAT CHARTER SERVICES OF ALL ALLIES BE SUBJECTED TO THE LIMITATIONS LEVIED ON PANAM.

AS A RESULT, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO APPROVE ANY MORE APPLICATIONS FOR CHARTERS BY LAKER AND DANAIR TO LONDON UNTIL A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION HAS BEEN REACHED TO QUESTION OF PANAM PARTICIPATION IN THE BERLIN-LONDON MARKET. UNLESS SIMILAR UNDERSTANDING IS REACHED ON BERLIN-PARIS MARKET, WE WILL HAVE TO RECONSIDER OUR POSITION ON SUPPLEMENTARY FLIGHTS FLOWN REGULARLY BY AIR FRANCE.

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PAGE 03 STATE 058370

3. REQUEST ANY COMMENTS EMBASSY MAY HAVE ON PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

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